



Improving quality of life one of Air Force's top challenges

By Tech. Sgt. Scott Elliott
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — Acknowledging that the current operations tempo has placed a severe strain on airmen, the secretary of the Air Force told the service's first sergeants that supporting quality of life issues is one of his top priorities.

"I view this as one of the Air Force's most critical challenges," said Dr. James Roche at the Worldwide First Sergeant's Conference held recently in Jacksonville, Fla. "(Air Force Chief of Staff) Gen. John Jumper and I are absolutely committed to creating conditions to enhance workplace effectiveness and increase the quality of life for our members and their families."

The secretary spoke of a "fundamental contract" between volunteer military members and their families and the American public, which benefits from their collective sacrifice. "This partnership is built on understanding that families, as well as the servicemember, contribute immeasurably to the strength of the American military," he said. "As a result, we need to make a tangible and substantive commitment to improving quality of life. Action, not talk, is what it will take to deliver this goal."

Education benefits, for both the servicemember and the family, were first on the secretary's agenda. "We're funding tuition assistance at 100 percent starting Oct. 1," he said. "To increase our support for military in public schools, we've asked each base to appoint a full

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Photo by Larry Farlow

Presence of justice


A San Antonio Police Department patrolman writes a traffic ticket to an illegally parked vehicle on the circle between Bldgs. 150 and 180 early one morning recently. The Brooks population is reminded that SAPD now patrols the base and will enforce all laws just as they would in any other part of the city.

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Brooks welcomes plans for Texas A&M University system's southside campus

By Rudy Purificato
311th Human Systems Wing

Brig. Gen. Lloyd Dodd, 311th Human Systems Wing commander, characterized the recently announced plans for expanding Texas A&M University system's southside campus at Palo Alto College as a positive for Brooks City-Base initiatives.

"The real test of City-Base in the coming year is to develop partnerships that will enhance the Air Force mission," Dodd said, referring to the relationship Air Force leaders here are establishing with Texas A&M University at Kingsville.

Dodd praised the university's future plans at a Sept. 4 breakfast, hosted by the South San Antonio Chamber of Commerce, at the Brooks Club in honor of TAMUK's new president Dr. Rinaldo Juarez.

"We're setting the foundation for what will become Texas A&M University- San Antonio, a separate campus in the A&M system," said Juarez.

The A&M center at Palo Alto College was established in fall 2000 as part of TAMUK's initiative to develop a base in South San Antonio. Juarez said the initial enrollment was 126 students.

"The enrollment has doubled every year," he said, noting that 496 students are currently enrolled at the A&M center. Based on student enrollment projections, a separate campus could be established within three to five years.

"The magic number is 3,500 students," Juarez said, referring to the minimum number required by the Higher Education Coordinating Board to establish a self-sustaining, independent campus.

Juarez envisions a new university campus that will contribute to southern sector economic development by attracting new businesses to the area, as well as developing a better-educated work force that supports sustained southside growth.

The potential impact of the

expansion for Brooks City-Base could be substantial through increased educational opportunities for Brooks personnel seeking undergraduate and advanced degrees. Brooks-based research and development could also benefit through TAMUK's plans to implement an internship program.

Juarez said the initial focus of the internship program involves students seeking degrees in engineering, business and pharmacy.

"Student internships help integrate students in the work force and provides them with frontline experience," Juarez explained. Historically, Brooks has had many student interns, some who later became full-time employees.

Such an ambitious move to create a major new university benefits the entire community, Juarez said, noting that the venture will not threaten the economic vitality of schools within the Alamo Community College District.

"The issue is not (about) competing

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Discovery Editorial Staff:

311th Human Systems Wing Commander

Brig. Gen. Lloyd Dodd

Director of Public Affairs

Larry Farlow

Editor

Cerise Shapiro

(cerise.shapiro@brooks.af.mil)

Assistant Editor

Dale Eckroth

(dale.eckroth@brooks.af.mil)

Public Affairs NCOIC

Staff Sgt. John Jung

Photography

Staff Sgt. Alfonso Ramirez, Jr.

Senior Airman Brandy Bogart

Discovery logo

by Arlene Schirmer



Sylvia Black, Publisher

Pia Goodman, Prod. Mgr.

Pat McCain, Classified Mgr.

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Diane Bohl, Sales Manager

Sherry Snoga, Account Exec.

Rose Stewart, Account Exec.

Steve Kalaher, Account Exec.

Advertising

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FAX:

(210) 675-4577

E-mail:

sblack@txdirect.net



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Happy Birthday Air Force —



Courtesy photo

Air Force Secretary, Chief of Staff send birthday message

(Editor's note: The following is a joint message from Secretary of the Air Force Dr. James Roche and Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John Jumper:)

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — Fifty-five years ago, President Harry Truman, with a visionary stroke of his pen, established the U.S. Air Force as a separate armed service. Since then, we have revolutionized the nature of warfare and enabled a new universe of discovery and operations in space. With its attributes of speed, range, stealth, awareness and precision, our nation's outstanding Air Force will continue to deliver global reconnaissance and air dominance, as well as the great deterrent power those capabilities make possible.

From the days of providing humanitarian relief during the Berlin Airlift to the historic display of airpower during Operations Desert Storm and Allied Force, and now in the war on terrorism, our airmen have served with extraordinary integrity,

selflessness, and dedication.

Across the spectrum of operations, whether standing guard for deterrence, conducting joint combat operations, fulfilling our global expeditionary commitments, or defending the homeland, our Air Force has answered its nation's call. However, we cannot rest on our past successes. We must renew our commitment to adapt our current systems, modernize our force, and transform our air and space strategy to the challenges of this new era.

At the dawn of the 21st century, the importance of air and space dominance to the joint warfighter is clear. We owe much to the legends of airpower whose determination and vision resulted in an independent Air Force.

Today we celebrate our heritage and look forward to a bright future thanks to airmen across the globe: active duty, civilian, Guard, Reserve, retirees, veterans and their families.

Happy Birthday to the world's premier air and space force, the U.S. Air Force!

Define moments with human approach

By Chief Master Sgt. Tom Buchanan

355th Supply Squadron

DAVIS-MONTHAN AIR FORCE BASE, Ariz. (AFPN) — An actor in the movie "Tin Cup" said the world is full of defining moments. The question is whether the moment will define you or you will define the moment.

Young leaders may not know this, but those defining moments are constantly happening. They are not always on such a large scale as the movie makes them out to be.

When a troop approaches you to talk about a personal problem but you're too busy to talk, that is a defining moment. When you accept pats on the back for the job your shop did well, but blame your airmen when things go wrong, that is a defining moment.

Recent surveys claim that many airmen are leaving the service due to poor leadership. It usually wasn't one big screw-

up by a supervisor that made someone want to leave but many small defining moments.

If supervisors make the right choices during those moments, they can define themselves as leaders rather than having the moment define them as weak and ineffectual.

Being a good leader is a tough job, but it's fulfilling when done properly. Balancing the troops' needs with the demands of the mission is a daily struggle.

Putting a human approach into your decision-making process will always help you define the moment. Putting myself in their shoes usually helps me determine the right approach to take with subordinates.

I know there are times when you must tell someone "Go do that right now."

Later on, when time is not such a factor, take the time to explain why it was so important for that person to perform that task right away

and thank the person for doing it well. This puts a human touch on the situation and allows you to help define the moment.

Who will work better for me? An airman who does what he or she is told because of the stripes on my arm or the airman who I have helped through many defining moments?

If you have earned your leadership role through many small defining moments, your troops will do everything in their power not to let you down.

Defining moments happen every day. They may not be noticeable to you, but they may be to your troops.

Did you help them when they needed it? Did you give them a shoulder to cry on when a parent passed away? Did you kick them in the rear when they needed it? Did you fight for a decoration for them?

Decisions you make every-day define you as a leader.

Make your decisions count.



Communications Squadron, PublicAffairs office add to their multiple base honors

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

Their continued sustained performance as two of Brooks City-Base's most reliable and productive organizations has earned the 311th Communications Squadron and 311th Human Systems Wing Public Affairs Office the base's highest honor.

Brig. Gen. Lloyd Dodd presented the 311th Human Systems Wing's Commanders Award last week to organizations that are no strangers to success. The Cable Maintenance Work Center became the sixth 311th Communication's Squadron unit to earn the base's top prize. The HSW Public Affairs staff earned their third commander's trophy, having previously won the award in May 1998 and November 1999.

The five-member team known as

the "Cable Dawgs" have enhanced the meaning of the word "industrious." Responsible for maintaining Brooks' cable infrastructure, including 23 miles of copper cable and 40 miles of fiber optic cable, the team earned the base's highest honor for their extraordinary efforts to resolve two major disruptions in communications in July.

After severe flooding degraded telephone service and knocked out power to the southwest area of the base, the cable crew spent 500 man-hours to restore communications service that included pumping water out of manholes and repairing damaged cable.

The crew was further tested later in July when a contractor drilled through four fiber optic cables during a base sidewalk project. The accident, which occurred on a weekend, cut

local area network service to 10 base facilities. The team worked tirelessly for 30 hours to replace 6,500 feet of fiber optic cable, restoring communications prior to the beginning of the next business day.

The team members who earned the award are Tech. Sgt. Richard Stevens, Staff Sgt. Mark McParland, Senior Airman Christopher Doriott, Airmen First Class William Pyles and Christopher Pedroley.

The Wing's Public Affairs staff earned the commander's award for their extraordinary efforts in planning and executing the Brooks City-Base Conveyance Ceremony in July.

The staff's contributions included extensive media support, massive logistics coordination supporting last-minute changes in the ceremony site, production of a special commemorative issue of the Discovery, the design and distribution of commemorative ceremony pins, the design of a new City-Base marketing display, and support for more than 500 distinguished guests.

Brooks', nations' activities celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month

By Rita Boland

Staff writer

Hispanic Heritage Month began Sept. 15, kicking off a nation-wide celebration of the contributions of the fastest-growing minority in the U.S.

Americans honor Hispanics from Sept. 15-Oct. 15, instead of during a calendar month because the Hispanic countries Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua celebrate their independence Sept. 15.

Mexico celebrates independence on Sept. 16 and Chile Sept. 18. People with backgrounds from 21 countries, including the U.S., consider themselves Hispanic.

The country first celebrated Hispanic Heritage Month in 1988. Since 1968, Hispanic Heritage Week had been celebrated during the 7-day span including Sept. 15 and 16.

Hispanics have contributed to all aspects of American society including the arts, science, politics, the military and sports. In 1952, Dr. Severo Ochoa, working in New York, won the Nobel Prize in Medicine and Physiology for

his discovery of RNA.

Cesar Chavez, who served in the Navy during World War II, organized farm workers into the United Farm Workers, AFL-CIO. He encouraged the workers to better their lives through non-violent protests, resulting in better housing, health benefits and wage increases for farm workers. Chavez received the Medal of Freedom Award.

Thirty-eight Hispanics have won the Congressional Medal of Honor. David Barkley was the first to receive the honor for his sacrifice in the World War I.

Barkley, an Army private, voluntarily swam across the Meuse River in France to gather information behind German lines. He drowned in the icy water while swimming back from the mission Nov. 9, 1918.

Hispanics have traditionally participated in large numbers in America's military, including 400,000 Hispanic troops in World War II and 25,000 troops in the Gulf War.

According to the 2000 U.S. Census, more than 35 million people of

Hispanic or Latino origin live in the U.S. and 20 million have a Mexican background. Hispanics comprise about 58 percent of the population in San Antonio.

In Texas cities like Laredo and Brownsville, Hispanics comprise more than 90 percent of the population. In America, 17 million Americans speak Spanish in the home, second only to English.

According to Washington Post projections, Hispanics will comprise 25 percent of the American population by 2050.

Brooks began its celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month with a Proclamation and Mass at the base chapel Sept. 17.

The base gym hosted a 3-on-3 mixed basketball tournament Sept. 18 and Fiesta Daycare, which incorporates several events is scheduled from Sept. 30-Oct.

Finally, the Keynote Speakers Luncheon, featuring Dr. Ana Guzman, president of Palo Alto College, is scheduled for Oct. 10 at the Brooks Club.

Special emphasis seminar focuses on employment forecast

The Special Emphasis Employment Program Managers at Brooks will host a two-day training seminar at the Radison Hotel, 502 West Durango Blvd. in downtown San Antonio Oct. 17-18.

The seminar theme, "Building an Employment Future: Employment, A Community Concern," focuses on the local community's employment forecast within the federal and private sectors. The goal is to help government employees adapt to ever-changing work environments. Federal, state and local employees are invited to attend.

The registration fee is \$75, which includes refreshments, conference sessions, and keynote luncheon. Registration deadline is Sept. 26. For more information, seminar agenda, and registration forms, visit the website at: <https://hsuya2.brooks.af.mil/common/milgov/SEPM/Flyer.htm> or call Fred Washington at 536-5825 or Alice Sanders at 536-2107.

Fort Sam Houston plans Hispanic Heritage event

In honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, Lou Gallegos, Assistant Secretary for Administration, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Theresa Al Villar Speake, Deputy Assistant Secretary in the Office of Impact and Diversity in Washington, D.C., and Michael Montelongo, Assistant Secretary of the U.S. Air Force, will participate in a special evening at the Fort Sam Houston Officers' Club Oct. 10. The evening begins with cocktail hour at 6 p.m. followed by the presentation of Colors by Jefferson High School, under direction of Maj. Vidal Garza, dinner and featured speaker presentations.

Cost is \$25 per person, or \$300 for eight-person tables. Contact Gilber Chavez at 497-0546 for more information or 434-9656 for reservations.



Command support
Brig. Gen. Lloyd Dodd, 311th Human Systems Wing commander, (right), gives a thumbs up for this year's Combined Federal Campaign theme poster. 311th Vice Commander Col. Stuart Cowles, (left), joined the project director, U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine's Capt. Andrea Gooden, and Command Chief Master Sgt. Darlin Evans for the initial peek. The CFC kicks off Oct. 2 at Brooks.

Challenges

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colonel to represent our interests in their local school boards. Our military children will now have an advocate to support their needs."

Early indications show this is having a positive effect, particularly with testing requirements and admissions criteria. A similar new initiative will combine education with career development.

"I'm proud of our new initiatives to increase Air Force Institute of Technology attendance...and to make advanced education available to those senior enlisted members who qualify for our graduate degree programs," Roche said.

On the home front, the secretary is looking to beef up family support programs, with special attention paid to spousal employment and communication.

"One area I'm pleased about is our initiative to improve spouse employment and create exportable skills," he said. "In a test program at Cannon (Air Force Base, N.M.), we partnered with industry and taught 17 spouses how to create their own online businesses."

As a testimonial to that program's success, two of the 17 spouses made permanent change of station moves and took their businesses with them to the new locations.

"Our vision is to partner with industry and bring this capability to every family support center in the Air Force," Roche said.

In addition, the secretary said he wants to increase the flow of information to families in these times of increased operations tempo.

"We must communicate with families," he said. "Accurate, timely information and honest communication is the best medicine to overcome the anxiety and stress created by demanding work schedules, frequent deployments and the challenges of the military lifestyle."

Roche said these actions are important investments in the people who maintain and operate the service's complex systems, not examples of hollow philanthropy.

"In my 40 years of military and business experience, I have learned that people remain the most important resource in any organization," he said.

AFIERA, FLARE ready in case of nuclear attack

By Rita Boland
Staff writer

As the threat of nuclear attack hangs over the nation and the world, the U.S. military is taking steps to ensure the safety of its troops and the civilians they protect.

The Dosimetry Branch of the Radiation Surveillance Division at the Air Force Institute for Environment, Safety and Occupational Health Risk Analysis operates a program to measure the amount of radiation exposure people receive in the course of doing their jobs.

The Field Laboratory to Assess Radiation Exposure is a deployable extension of the Air Force's personnel radiation dosimetry program. FLARE is a team with equipment that can deploy to a battlefield or other site and assess the damage of a large-scale nuclear weapon, a dirty bomb or an accident.

FLARE is a pilot project funded by the Department of Defense and the only accredited laboratory capable of making these types of assessments on site. The key components for FLARE are the thermo luminescent dosimeter and the electronic personnel dosimeter.

The EPDs measure total dose of radiation, global positioning system coordinates, rate of dose, heart rate and body temperature from a distance of several miles away from the location of FLARE. A computer monitor displays the information in real time.

"One thing that's very unique is the flexibility of the package," Dicey said. "It can be easily expanded to measure the heart rate and respiration of the individual using the instrument as well as measuring a wide variety of other things like chemical agents and air sampling through use of smart detectors."

The extensive monitoring allows team and troop leaders to monitor where their team is and what the team has encountered. It also permits monitoring of people who have absorbed large doses of radiation without requiring close contact with other people.

Developers used off-the-shelf technology, manipulated for FLARE's

unusual purpose, to create the laboratory portion of FLARE.

FLARE meets international standards for radiation monitoring set by NATO. Though the system primarily supports Air Force missions, it could deploy in support of other military branches, or civilian needs, with the permission of AFIERA's major command. It has the capability to deploy solo or with the Air Force Radiation Assessment Team at AFIERA.

"This flexibility makes it possible for FLARE to be used in support of a wide range of radiation response situations ranging from uniquely military to civil response support, such as might happen in the event of an accident like Three Mile Island or Chrenobyl," Dicey said. "Deployment (outside of military needs) would normally be requested by the Defense Threat Reduction Agency through Air Force command channels."

Despite the fear and widespread damage that a nuclear attack would cause, officials at AFIERA think an attack is a remote possibility.

"An accident or incident is much more likely than an attack," Dicey said.

Dicey and his colleague Gerald Achenbach describe an incident as a dirty bomb and an accident as a nuclear power plant explosion or transportation mishap.

"Fortunately we've never been called in for an emergency," Achenbach said. "You want to have the capability."

In the mid-90s a nuclear laboratory in Japan had a mishap where high amounts of radiation leaked into the occupational environment, killing three people. The team at AFIERA prepared to deploy to determine if radiation had been released into the environment, but never received final orders.

On a daily basis, the dosimetry branch at AFIERA analyzes TLDs, which measure the amount of radiation a person receives over time, in most cases a quarter of a year. Troops in jobs with high exposure to radiation wear the TLDs, which are then submitted for analysis to AFIERA.

At any given time around 10,000 Air Force and other personnel worldwide receive personnel dosimetry monitoring service from this program.



Campus

Continued from Page 1

with other universities and colleges. The issue is about those we are responsible for educating - the students," Juarez said. He believes citizens are better served when they are given more educational opportunities.

The A&M center has not adversely affected Palo Alto College's enrollment, which continues to soar. Nevertheless, a major issue for both co-located campuses is space. That issue will eventually be resolved, however, there are no plans to locate TAMUK classes at Brooks City-Base. Still, Dodd said, TAMUK's initiative will help "enliven the economy of San Antonio."

Juarez thanked Brooks City-Base and South Chamber leaders for their support of the A&M center initiative.

Rudolph.Purificato@brooks.af.mil

“ We’re setting the foundation for what will become Texas A&M University (at) San Antonio, a separate campus in the A&M system. ”

Dr. Rumaldo Juarez
President, Texas A&M
University at Kingsville



Photo by Staff Sgt. Alfonso Ramirez Jr.

Getting established

Tom Rumora, director of Brooks City-Base Development Office and wife Mary, move boxes and personal items into their new home in base housing as a result of the Brooks City-Base transition. The Rumora family is the first civilian family to reside in base housing at Brooks.



Workforce Recruitment Program for Students with Disabilities identifies qualified employees

By Maria Hinijosa

311th Air Base Group

Annually, the President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities and the Department of Defense co-sponsor the Workforce Recruitment Program for College Students with Disabilities. The DoD provides funding and work years for the program, providing potential managers access to much-needed assistance during the summer at no cost to the organization. The program is another Air Force resource to identify qualified temporary and permanent employees in a variety of career fields. Post-secondary students and recent graduates eager to prove their abilities are interviewed on campuses across the country.

This year the CPF successfully placed its first student for the summer. Rob Evans, a 20-year-old student at Texas A&M University, is a junior this year and is majoring in accounting with a 3.25 GPA. While at Brooks, Evans was assigned to Financial Management, working primarily with the Nonappropriated Funds Financial Analyst but also providing assistance to a number of other programs performing many different tasks. He gained practical experience and insight into structured meetings and their proceedings by attending the NAF Council and associated meetings.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Alfonso Ramirez Jr.

Texas A & M University junior Rob Evans works with a member of the Brooks Financial Management office during his summer employment at Brooks.

Evans is characterized as a "go-getter" who was more than willing to assist with filing and physical inventories. He also assisted travel technicians in computing vouchers and achieved a 96 percent accuracy rate, which exceeds the 95 percent Air Force standard, and the normal 90 percent standard for a new technician.

Overall, according to those who worked with him, Evans was a great asset to the entire Comptroller team. His sense of humor and matter-of-fact approach served as an indication of his unlimited potential.

Evans applied for the Workforce

Recruitment Program for College Students with Disabilities through the Texas A & M Services for Students with Disabilities Department, and recommends the program to other students. His plans for the future include pursuing a Master's degree in accounting and testing for certified public accountant certification/licensing.

Early in 2003, the Civilian Personnel Flight will again request organizations to participate in the Workforce Recruitment Program for College Students with Disabilities, with hopes of having more students from this program working at Brooks.

AFCEE employees nominated for "Excellence in Government" awards

By Rita Boland

Staff writer

Three members of the Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence have been nominated for the Alamo Federal Executive Board "Excellence in Government" awards.

Frank Castaneda III received a nomination in the professional category; Jane Keller was nominated in the customer support category; and Ralph Miles received a nomination in the community service category.

Prizes will be given for first, second and third place and runner-up. The annual awards have recognized federal employees in San Antonio for the last 25 years.

Winners will be announced at the 2002 "Excellence in Government" Awards Ceremony and Luncheon at the Omni Hotel, today at 11:30 a.m.

In addition to the award presentations, the luncheon include a change in Board leadership. Michael McMillion, chairman of the Alamo Federal Executive Board, passes the gavel to Brig. Gen. Bernard Pieczynski, commander of the 433rd Airlift Wing at Lackland Air Force Base. Pieczynski officially takes over the duties Oct. 1.

Bill Taylor, weatherman at KENS-TV, is the Master of Ceremonies. Gary Anziani, a pianist, and Loretta Boyd, a singer, will provide entertainment.



ACTION LINE

536-2222



Brig. Gen. Lloyd Dodd
311th Human Systems
Wing commander

The **COMMANDER'S ACTION LINE** is your opportunity to make Brooks a better place to live, work and play.

If you have a suggestion for improvement, a complaint or a problem that you have not been able to resolve through normal complaint channels or the chain of command, call the **COMMANDER'S ACTION LINE, 536-2222.**

Only items of general interest will be published, so please leave your name and number for a personal response.

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Housing Office	536-1840
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311th Medical Squadron (Clinic)	536-4715
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EEO Complaints	536-3702
BXMarket	533-9079
Brooks Development Office	536-3372
Brooks City-Base Marketing and Development Office	536-5366

Where's the respect?

(Editor's note: This article was written by a spouse at Shaw Air Force Base, S.C.)

Anonymous

A military spouse

I was thoroughly ashamed today, and feel there is a need to address a problem at Shaw.

The problem is a lack of respect for the privilege of freedom. Today, while exiting the commissary, the national anthem began to play at the same time a gentle rain began to fall.

God added a brilliant flash of lighting at the height of the anthem that truly took my breath away.

I had crossed the street but had not reached my car, so I stood silently while the music played. Two older gentlemen also stood in the rain, one so stooped by age, I wondered how he even carried the bags in his arms.

While this happened, I counted eight

“ *This lack of respect to our flag better not happen here.* ”

Brig. Gen. Lloyd Dodd

311th Human Systems Wing commander

persons in military uniform either run to their cars, duck into the commissary, or continue driving. Only myself and the two older gentlemen paid any attention to the anthem at all. I was so annoyed at one master sergeant who rushed by me to get into the GNC that I told him, “Just because you’re wearing camouflage does not mean no one can see you.” Not the nicest comment, but it’s how I felt.

Where has it gone, the respect?

The anthem is our remembrance for why we are here. How can someone be trusted to defend our country when a few raindrops turn them into cowards?

Here’s hoping Osama bin Laden does not have a squirt gun ... or we’re beat.

(The basic Air Force guidance on flag etiquette is in AFR 900-3. According to Title 36, United States Code, Chapter 10, the following laws and regulations pertain to our National flag.)

Hoist the flag briskly and lower it ceremoniously. During the ceremony of hoisting or lowering the flag or when the flag is passing in a parade or in review, all people present except those in uniform should face the flag and stand at attention with the right hand over the heart. Those present in uniform should render the military salute. When not in uniform, men should remove their headdress with their right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart. Aliens should stand at attention. When the flag passes in a proces-

sion, or when it is hoisted or lowered, all should face the flag and salute.

When the national anthem is played and the flag is displayed outdoors, all present except those in uniform should stand at attention facing the flag with the right hand over the heart. Men not in uniform should remove their headdress with their right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart. Personnel in uniform should render the military salute at the first note of the anthem and retain this position until the last note.



Pentagon attack prompts memories of U.S. Embassy bombing in Kenya

By Rudy Purificato
311th Human Systems Wing

Col. Virgil Jefferson had no sense of foreboding or any premonition of an impending disaster while visiting the Pentagon the day before the Sept. 11 terrorist attack. Yet in the attack’s aftermath, he recalled the consequences of another Osama bin Laden plot that involved him rendering aid to victims of the 1998 U.S. Embassy bombing in Kenya.

While Jefferson offered his services as a general surgeon to Andrews Air Force Base, Md., medical leaders shortly after the Pentagon attack, he was not used in the rescue and recovery effort. The U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine’s Theater Medical Support chief had been attending a surgeon board review in Columbia, Md., from Sept. 6-11, just 20 miles away from the Pentagon.

However, he was in the right place at the right time while deployed to Prince Sultan Air Base, Saudi Arabia, in August 1998 when al-Qaida terrorists bombed U.S. Embassies in Kenya and Tanzania’s capital cities of Nairobi and Dar es Salaam.

“I had gone to Saudi Arabia 10 days before the attack as part of a 60-day deployment,” recalls Jefferson, who at the time was Mather AFB Hospital medical staff chief in Sacramento, Calif. As the only general surgeon at the Saudi air base, Jefferson was tasked by 4404th Medical Group Commander Col. Courtney Scott to lead a

Medical Assessment Team to Kenya to provide on-site medical evaluation and treatment to bombing victims.

Jefferson wasted no time in assembling his team. “I had to decide who I was going to take,” he recalls about a team that consisted of himself; an emergency room doctor; orthopedic physician; two flight surgeons; two nurses with burn treatment experience and one nurse with aeromedical evacuation training; an operating room technician; medical floor technician and a social worker. “I needed the social worker who was trained in critical incident debriefings,” Jefferson said, referring to the mental health counseling that the member was responsible for.

While Jefferson’s team had some information about the post-attack situation in Nairobi, they didn’t know the composition and capabilities of civilian medical emergency services there. Jefferson’s group set up operations the next morning at the U.S. Agency for International Development, just 10 miles away from ground zero. They brought with them medical supplies and equipment to help treat 5,000 casualties who survived the blast that had destroyed the U.S. Embassy and had damaged many nearby office buildings. The bombing killed more than 250 people.

“Some of the victims were vaporized by the explosion from a 4,000 to 5,000-pound bomb. The jawbone from one of the victims was found miles away. Most of the injured had suffered head,



Courtesy photo

face and upper body wounds produced from flying glass and debris,” Jefferson said. He was told that a smaller bomb had been set off as a diversion. The second, more powerful bomb had been placed near the Embassy’s windows. People who heard the first explosion had run to the windows to see what had happened when the second explosion went off.

“It was eerily silent at ground zero. I’ll never forget the smell from body parts,” recalls Jefferson, who considers the experience the greatest challenge of his Air Force career.

Besides managing his own medical team, which he dispersed to various hospitals throughout the city to treat victims, Jefferson had to walk the fine line of diplomacy. “There was chaos and frustration. You learn to dig down deep within yourself (for strength and guidance). I learned how to be a diplomat and a politician,” he admits.

He was faced with extraordinary issues he hadn’t experienced before. Among them was the culturally sensitive issue of outdated medical supplies. “I found out it’s taboo in East Africa to use outdated medical supplies (on the native population),” he noted.

On-lookers observe recovery efforts following the Al-Qaida terrorist bombing of U.S. Embassies in Kenya and Tanzania’s capital cities of Nairobi and Dar es Salaam in 1998.

He also had to deal with negative press that initially accused the American humanitarian mission of only helping Embassy personnel and their families. Jefferson resolved that issue quickly by directing a composite American Armed Forces medical group to treat Kenyan civilians that included many who were not victims of the explosion. His “doctors without borders” approach paid off with positive press reports.

Jefferson learned quite a few lessons during his 17 days in Kenya.

“It’s true that you may be called, when you least expect it, to run an operation,” he surmised, adding, “Force Protection should not be taken lightly. You should always be familiar with your surroundings and report any suspicious acting personnel.”

While he doesn’t believe that future attack attempts can be prevented, Jefferson said, “It’s going to happen (again). We can’t stop it, but we can be a deterrent.” Practicing situational awareness, he noted, is an important contribution to America’s war on terrorism.

Rudolph.Purificato@Brooks.af.mil



By Jan McMahon
Brooks Services Marketing Office
536-5475

Premiere Designs

Bldg. 1154, 536-2041

Premiere Designs, formerly The FrameWorks, is open Mon.-Fri. from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. We no longer do custom framing but offer package deals on a limited basis. Let us print your business cards for you. Purchase 100 cards for \$10, 250 for \$20 and 500 for \$35. Bring in your information and select from different styles and colors. Samples are on display.

Let us add the right touch to any project with laser engraving on the glass. Shadow boxes and coin displays are also still available. We offer balloons, either bouquets or individually. Select from a wide variety of colors for all occasions.

Orders can be placed through e-mail by contacting: rebecca.estrada@brooks.af.mil.

Brooks Club

Bldg. 204, 536-3782

The Brooks' Spouses Club holds the Trash to Treasures Flea Market Sept. 28 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Brooks' Club parking lot. Everyone is encouraged to participate. Clean out the attic,

children's rooms or the garage. Rent a booth for a minimum cost of \$10 per table and sell the items you no longer want or use. Food and beverages will be available for purchase from the Brooks Club. For more information or to sign up, contact Cindy Roberts at 884-1429 or 333-1691 or Terri Ireland at 337-5246 or 385-0906.

Sidney's

Bldg. 714, 536-2077

Family Night is every Tuesday from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at Sidney's. Bring the entire family and enjoy the Pasta Bar for \$3 for adults and \$2 for children ages 2-10. Coloring sheets will be provided for the young and young at heart, as well as the Cartoon Network. Where else can you take the family and dine for this price?

— Football Frenzy is back. Club members have the opportunity to win a trip to a regular season NFL game, the Super Bowl and the Pro Bowl. Fans can watch the games, enter and win prizes at Sidney's.

This year the "Punch or Punt" frequency card means more entries and chances to win a trip to the Super Bowl in 2004. Grand prize winners receive a trip for two to see the Dallas Cowboys vs. the San Francisco 49ers, the Super Bowl or the Pro Bowl.

As a post-season bonus, two members and their guests will fly to San Francisco to meet 49ers wide receiver, Terrell Owens. Trips include round-trip airfare, hotel accommodations, local transportation, and game tickets. Contact the club at 536-3782 for additional information on Frenzy activities.

Join friends for food and football excitement on the big screen television at Sidney's, and, as a member, be eligible to win.

Outdoor Recreation

Bldg. 1154, 536-2881

— Sign-up now for A Nuevo Laredo Shopping Trip scheduled for Nov.16. Spend the day in Nuevo Laredo and complete your holiday gift list or just shop for yourself. The tour bus will cross the border into Nuevo Laredo and make several stops. Visit Guadalajara Pottery and select unique one-of-a-kind pottery, then the Giganto Mall where you are

sure to find everything on your list.

The cost is \$25 per person.

The bus departs at 7 a.m,arrives in Laredo at 10 a.m. where brunch will be served, for an additional charge. The bus departs Laredo at 4 p.m. and arrives back at Brooks at 8 p.m. Call the Outdoor Recreation staff and reserve a seat for the trip.

— There is still time to visit Fiesta Texas Six Flags and Sea World of San Antonio. Tickets can be purchased at Outdoor Recreation Mon.-Fri. from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. The parks are open weekends through the end of the season.

Honor Guard

Bldg. 1154, 536-2635

The Honor Guard Program is looking for you. The program is seeking highly motivated, dedicated military personnel to join. For more information contact Staff Sgt. Melissa Gonzalez.

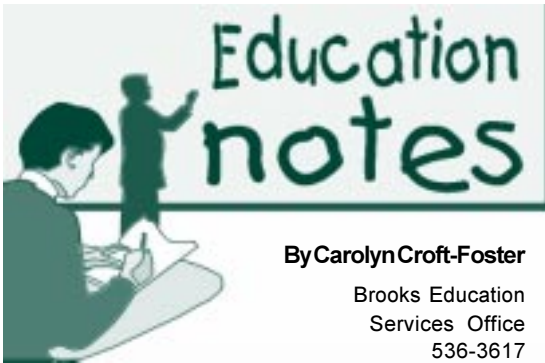
Talent competition

The Brooks Teen and Family Talent Contest and Fashion Show, hosted by the Teen Center, is scheduled for Oct. 5 starting at 6 p.m. Videotapes of base winners will be submitted for an Air Force-level contest, where competitors try for U.S. Savings Bonds. Everyone is encouraged to attend and enjoy an evening of entertainment while cheering for their co-workers and neighbors. Call Teen Center Coordinator Ron Hayes at 536-3160 or Vida Marsh, marketing director, at 536-8057 for more details.

Operation Halloween

Operation Halloween is just around the corner. Ghosts, goblins, ballerinas and clowns will be out and about before we know it.

The Youth Center hosts contests for the best-decorated yard in base housing and best decorated windows and doors in organizations. Other activities include a Count the Corn Contest for adults and children, a coloring competition, costume contest, trick-or-treating in base housing and more. Watch for more details.



Tuition assistance

Air Force members soon will benefit from a new Department of Defense tuition assistance policy that pays 100 percent of tuition for off-duty courses, according to Air Force education officials. This policy, effective Oct. 1, will pay tuition costs and mandatory fees up to a maximum of \$250 per semester hour, or \$750 per three-hour course. The policy also includes a \$4,500-per-year tuition assistance ceiling.

Under the new policy, as long as the total cost falls under the authorized total, the student has no out of pocket expense for tuition. However, tuition assistance cannot be used to pay for textbooks unless they are included in an academic institution's published tuition rates.

The increase to 100 percent tuition assistance was authorized by Congress two years ago but was not funded until fiscal 2003. The tuition assistance program is the same across the entire Defense Department. Each service had two years to develop a plan to make the programs work together. For more information regarding the new tuition assistance policy, contact Education Services in Bldg. 558.

ROTC deadline

Airmen interested in applying for the Airman Scholarship and Commissioning Program, Scholarship for Outstanding Airmen to ROTC, or the Professional Officers Course-Early Release Program

must have applications completed and submitted to Education Services by Oct. 1 for the Oct. 15 board. Call 536-3617 to schedule an appointment to review application requirements.

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University

The ERAU representative visits Brooks every other Wednesday morning. To schedule an appointment with the representative to review graduate and bachelor's degree options, call 536-3618.

Fall CCAF graduates

The Aerospace Education Foundation's Pitsenbarger Award, provides a one-time grant of up to \$400 to selected top enlisted perosnnel graduating from the Community College of the Air Force and planning to pursue a baccalaureate degree. These awards are endowed by the Aerospace Education Foundation through corporate contributions and donations from Air Force Association members and chapters.

Interested Fall graduates who haven't received an application should stop by Education Services or call 536-3617. Application deadline is Oct. 2.

Participants can increase Montgomery GI Bill

Active-duty personnel, currently enrolled in the Montgomery GI Bill, have the opportunity to increase Chapter 30 GI Bill benefits by \$5,400 for a maximum contribution of \$600. This payment increases the full-time monthly rate one dollar for every four dollars contributed. The minimum payment is \$20 per month.

Contributions can be started and stopped at any time while the participant is on active duty.

This benefit is only open to personnel who first entered active duty on or after July 1, 1985, and elected to participate in the MGIB. This MGIB feature is NOT open to Vietnam-Era or VEAP Convertees.



Brooks Family Support Center activities

Call 536-2444 for information

Stocks and bonds introduction

11 a.m. - 1 p.m., Oct. 2, Bldg. 537—

This is one of a series of investment classes that prepare the beginning investor with: basic investment terms, fundamental investment principles, what mutual funds are, how mutual funds operate, and how to start investing in a mutual fund, different types of stocks and bonds, and other aspects of investing.

Three-day transition seminar

8 a.m. - 4 p.m., Sept. 24-26, Bldg. 537—

Making the transition from the military to civilian sector can be a big undertaking. This seminar allows us to better serve separating and retiring members and their spouses. Topics include job search preparation, resume writing, interviewing skills to include appropriate dress, veteran's benefits, and much more. Members should attend at least 180 days prior to retirement/separation.

Credit when credit is due

5:30 - 7:30 p.m., Oct. 3, Bldg. 537—

The Family Support Center, in conjunction with Randolph-Brooks Federal Credit Union and Consumer Credit Counseling Service of San Antonio offers a four-week financial education class beginning Oct. 3 at the Family Support Center. The classes are scheduled for 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. Tues. and Thurs. for four weeks. The deadline for registration is Oct. 1.

The course is open to active duty military personnel and their family members, Brooks civilians and family members, and members and employees of RBFCU.

Randolph-Brooks will pay the \$50 class fee for current members of the credit union and half the class fee (\$25) for non-members. Participants are also charged a \$10 registration fee, which will be refunded upon completion of the class.

The course highlights borrowing money, auto loans and leases, home buying, wise use of credit, personal financial solutions and planning for future goals.

Military community job fair

9:30 a.m. - 3 p.m., Sept. 25,

Live Oak Civic Center

A military community job fair is sponsored by the Fort Sam Houston Army Career and Alumni program, Lackland and Randolph Air Force Base Transition and Career Focus programs, Webster University and the Texas Workforce Commission. More than 100 employers are expected to participate.

Visit the website at: www.taonline.com for a complete up-to-date listing of participants. Call the Family Support Center at 536-2444 for more information.



Courtesy photo

AACA barbecue

Lt. Col. Clifton Jackson, 311th Human Systems Program Office, and Brooks African-American Cultural Association member, dishes out condiments to hungry Brooks personnel during the AACA Barbecue Plate Sale recently. Proceeds from the barbecue benefit the Bernard P. Randolph Scholarship Essay Contest. The sale was a huge success thanks to the participation of the ticket sales force, cooks, food preparation personnel and servers, logistical workers, Services, the Airman's Council, AACA members and friends and base personnel who bought tickets. Workers prepared nearly 550 plates. The Bernard P. Randolph Scholarship is open to Brooks' students, regardless of race, creed or national origin. The scholarship will be awarded at a luncheon scheduled for Feb. 27 from 11 to noon at the Brooks Club. Details will be published around Thanksgiving on the AACA website at: www.brooks.af.mil/aaca/master.htm. Contact Rick Sinkfield at 536-4188 for more information.



Enlisted ceremony

The next Brooks enlisted promotion ceremony is scheduled for Oct. 1 at 3 p.m. in the Brooks Club, Bldg. 204.

All enlisted promotees will be recognized for their promotion to the next higher grade for October. Come out and support the newest promotees.

Retiree Appreciation Day

Brooks celebrates its third annual Retiree Appreciation Day today from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Hanger 9, in conjunction with national POW/MIA Remembrance Day. Retiree Appreciation Day is an opportunity to honor retired military members in the local area for their dedication and significant contributions to the country. The event is also a reminder of the Brooks mission and the numerous services the base has available to the retiree community.

Representatives from TRICARE, AAFES, Retired Officer Association, Retired Enlisted Association, Military Personnel Flight, Brooks Family Support Center, National Association of Retired Federal Employees, Veterans Administration, Frank Tejeda Texas State Veterans Home, AARP Defensive Driving, Randolph Brooks Federal Credit Union will be at Hangar 9 to provide information.

Brooks Clinic and Health and Wellness Center personnel will provide blood pressure and cholesterol screenings, height and weight checks and assessments. Drawings and special offers are available throughout the day.

The POW/MIA commemoration activities begin with a wreath laying ceremony during Reveille at the Bldg. 150 flag pole at 7 a.m. Brooks personnel will participate in a silent vigil from 7 a.m.-4 p.m. A formal table ceremony is scheduled for 9 a.m. in Hanger 9, and afternoon events include tours of the Life Sciences Equipment Laboratory and a Retiree ceremony at 4 p.m. at the base flagpole.

For more information, contact retired Chief Master Sgt. Fred Dickinson in the Brooks Retiree Office at 536-2116.

NEWS briefs

Mandatory IRB briefings

In accordance with Federal Regulation 32CFR219, all individuals who anticipate involving human subjects or reviewing existing information records for investigative purposes as a part of their official duties at Brooks must attend an annual briefing. Briefings are scheduled for 9 a.m. Sept. 24 and 2 p.m. Sept. 30 in the Bldg. 180 main auditorium. Military members, civilians and contractors are required to attend one of the sessions if they desire to conduct, fund, or collaborate in research at Brooks, or with any other government or civilian institution. Sign-in is required. Contact Jane Marquardt, IRB administrator at 536-4113 or Col. Harry Marden, IRB chair, at 536-4466 for more information.

Altitude test subjects

Help provide F-22 pilots, high altitude parachute personnel, high altitude reconnaissance pilots and astronauts with adequate equipment and procedures to accomplish their missions without distraction or hazard resulting from exposure to altitude. Several research protocols are being conducted at the High Altitude Protection Laboratory at Brooks to accomplish this mission. Hypobaric (altitude) chamber test subjects can earn \$150 per month for participating in at least one session per month. Each subject must meet Air Force body fat or height/weight standards, be a non-smoker for at least two years, be between 18 and 50 years of age, and be able to pass an appropriate physical exam. Contact Heather Alexander at 536-3440 or Jim Carlile at 536-3546 for more information.

Sleep research participants

The Chronobiology and Sleep Laboratory at Brooks needs volunteers to participate in a number of ongoing sleep research studies. Interested

Air Force and civilian personnel who meet the necessary qualifications are eligible to receive compensation starting at \$10 per hour.

Contact Laura Sanchez at 536-3616 for additional information, or visit the website at: www.ntiinc.com and link to "studies."

Periodontics dept. seeks patients

The Wilford Hall Medical Center Department of Periodontics at Lackland Air Force Base is seeking patients with specific needs for treatment in the periodontics residency program. The department provides treatment of the gums and bone support of teeth including braces, crowns and bridgework. Applicants must be a military retiree, family member of retirees, or family members of active duty and have been recently determined by a dentist to have an existing periodontal condition. Eligible patients must obtain a written consult from their referring dentist. This consult may be faxed to "Attention, Periodontics" at 292-5193, or brought to the MacKown Dental Clinic during normal business hours to be scheduled for a periodontal evaluation appointment. Patients are selected for treatment based on the needs of the periodontal training program. For more information, call 292-7273.

Civilian awards program changes

Several changes have been made to the nomination process for the Brooks Civilian Quarterly Awards program to simplify the process and shorten the nomination narrative. Quarterly nominations are now limited to a total of 25 lines, and annual nominations are limited to a maximum of one page. Nominations should address the following headings: contributions to organizational mission and management goals, customer service training, development and self-improvement initiative, and community involvement.

The award periods, eligibility, categories and recognition remain the same. Contact Dana Chryar at 536-3663 or by email at: dana.chryar@brooks.af.mil for more information.



Montenegro



FULL NAME:

Robert Montenegro

DUTY TITLE, ORGANIZATION:

Mobility/Vehicle Operations Manager,
311th Air Base Group Logistics

WHAT IS MY JOB?:

I make sure that all mobility and deployment issues go smoothly. I oversee vehicle maintenance and operations.

BIRTHDAY:

March 21, 1960

HOMETOWN:

Born in Panama, raised in El Paso,
Texas

FAMILY STATUS:

Married.

NICKNAME:

Rob

PERSONAL MOTTO:

Work with me.

INSPIRATIONS:

Army Chief of Staff, Gen. Eric Shinseki

HOBBIES:

Cycling and reading

PET PEEVE:

People not being on time.

BOOK(S) AT BEDSIDE:

Understanding September 11
by Mitch Frank

I JOINED CIVIL SERVICE BECAUSE:

Having been in the military, I wanted to continue government service, and for the job security it gives you.

FIVE-YEAR GOAL:

staying employed at Brooks and continuing to support the City-Base transformation.

ULTIMATE GOAL:

retire and stay healthy

IF I WON THE LOTTERY:

I'd retire, invest and travel.

FAVORITE MUSIC:

Soft rock, pop, and jazz

MY GREATEST ACCOMPLISHMENT:

helping the Hondurans re-establish their education system during Operation Fuerte El Camino, and helping refugees (Kurds) transition from different cultures during Operation Pacific Haven.

MY MOST PRIZED POSSESSION:

It may sound cliché, but my wife and kids are my most prized possession.

Brooks Personality PROFILE

Making a difference, one country at a time

By Rita Boland

Staff writer

Robert Montenegro is a reserved man — Army Reserve.

After serving three years active duty in the Army, Montenegro separated from the military for a year, before a friend told him about the Civil Affairs reserve unit.

"(My friend) was a recruiter, so I thought he was trying to get his quota up," Montenegro said, grinning broadly.

However, Montenegro did some research, talking to other people knowledgeable about the unit, and decided to join.

"Civil Affairs is a unique unit," Montenegro said. "You get to travel to some very unique places

"There were always demonstrations," Montenegro said. "They were peaceful demonstrations, but you never knew. There was always the fear of snipers."

Mines were another threat to troops and civilians. More than one million mines were planted in the country and the soldiers had to be wary when traveling.

"You would read and hear about a farmer trying to get back to normal life and in the process stepping on a mine and lose his leg," Montenegro said.

The most direct threat

other cultures.

"One of the first things they tell you is not to pick sides in spite of what you had read or heard," he said. "(In the U.S.) you heard that the Serbs were the bad guys, but if you asked them they said it was the other way around. A lot of these people had professions, they were thrown into the war for survival."

The most difficult part of the experience was leaving behind his wife and two babies, but once he left the U.S. he knew he had to gather his courage.

"It was a hardship tour being married," Montenegro said. "I'm glad my marriage was solid. If they'd told me I didn't have to go, I would have been okay. (But) I'm a believer, you wear the uniform you do the mission tour."

Montenegro's other tours included building a school system in Honduras. Troops delivered books, pencils and clothing.

"It just made you really appreciate what you had," Montenegro said. "Here you throw pencils away. We take a lot of things for granted. Drinking water for instance."

The experience with the Hondurans not only taught him to appreciate his own situation, but also to be tolerant of other cultures.

When Iraq was persecuting the Kurds, America began to transport them out of country to save those who had American ties. However, since they were under attack, planes would land and open their back doors and the Kurds would just run on board en masse. The planes then landed in Guam and the people went through screening processes before being allowed to enter the U.S.

Many of the Kurds knew nothing of American, or even modern life. They were unfamiliar with inventions as basic to Americans as the light switch.

While waiting for inspections and paper processing, the people lived in former base housing, but didn't know how to use the modern conveniences.

"Sanitation was the biggest problem," Montenegro said. "They just didn't know what the bathroom was for."

Despite some of the less pleasant experiences, Montenegro, who retired after 21 years of service, misses the Reserves. However, he wants the chance to watch his kids grow up, and continue coaching baseball, he said.

Montenegro now works for logistics in the 311th Air Base Group, overseeing vehicle maintenance and operations and managing mobility and deployment.

"I'm here to help anybody," he said. "We're here to support the base."

Which is exactly what Montenegro has been doing for 24 years.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Alfonso Ramirez Jr.

around the world. They send you to all sorts of schools."

On his longest deployment, Montenegro spent nine months in Bosnia, helping to set up the new government.

"We went out there and did some really good stuff," he said.

The unit helped to establish a government that could handle the civil war and ethnic differences. He spent the time in Sarajevo, a city he described as beautiful and full of history, but torn apart by a hatred that has deep roots and won't disappear because of new policies.

"Bosnia is a troubled part of the world," Montenegro said. "It was intense at times."

According to Montenegro, none of the ethnic groups showed any animosity to the American troops, realizing that they were there to help stop the violence. However, the troops had constant reminders of the danger in the country.

he faced came during a walk through a small village. Montenegro was dressed in his uniform with his weapon ready to "lock and load." As he and a friend walked down the street, a Muslim man ran out at him, pointed at his name tape and starting shouting "Montenegro." Montenegro is a small, Serbian country south of Bosnia. Montenegro kept pointing to the American flag on his shoulder, trying to communicate that he was an American and had no intention of causing trouble, but a small, upset crowd began gathering around him.

"I told my (troop) to get his weapon ready," Montenegro said.

Fortunately, one of the interpreters came by and explained the situation to the mob.

"I won't lie to you," Montenegro said. "It was scary."

Despite the perils of being in country, Montenegro felt the mission was a rewarding experience that taught him much about the world and



America, Brooks observe Patriot Day

Rumsfeld, Myers remember slain, gird for future

By Jim Garamone

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld echoed Abraham Lincoln's Gettysburg Address when he told those attending the Sept. 11 Pentagon observance of last September's terrorist attack "that we meet on a battlefield" of the war on terrorism.

"For a battle was joined on that day — a battle still unfolding between a nation of free people and forces that seek to plunge that nation and, indeed, the free world into the darkness of tyranny and terror," Rumsfeld told the more than 10,000 people gathered by the west wall of the Pentagon.

President Bush, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Air Force Gen. Richard Myers and Rumsfeld spoke during the observance, titled "United in Freedom." A stage was built next to the spot where American Airlines Flight 77 slammed into the building at 9:37 a.m. last Sept. 11.

Rumsfeld said the nation must not forget the sacrifices made that day.

"Dedicated men and women came here on a clear September morning to serve their country, and then, in an instant, were taken from us," he said.

Rumsfeld said Americans "assemble today to ask what has been accomplished in the name of those who died and on behalf of those who lived."

He said the attacks in New York and the Pentagon pointed out America's



Photos by Staff Sgt. Alfonso Ramirez Jr.

Two members of the Brooks' Honor Guard hoist the flag during a special Reveille ceremony Sept. 11 at the Bldg. 150 flagpole.

vulnerabilities, and made Americans conscious of the dangers of the 21st century.

"That awakening came at a terrible price," he said. "But the terrorists aspire to even greater destruction. Unless they are stopped, the light of history will fade from this day, turning its gaze instead to subsequent days, when not thousands but tens of thousands of lives could be lost."

Both Rumsfeld and Myers focused on what the terrorists failed to do in their attacks on America.

"The terrorists sought to instill fear," Myers said. "Instead, our nation responded with resolve. Singular acts of courage were repeated a thousand times. Police, firefighters, medical personnel and passing citizens rushed to this building, just as they did to the World Trade Center and to that pasture in western Pennsylvania. No matter who they were, all shared a common purpose: 'How can I help?'"

Rumsfeld said that while the war on terrorism will be a long one, in one sense the terrorists have al-

ready been defeated.

"They were defeated before the first shot was fired in Afghanistan," he said. "They were defeated because they failed utterly to achieve their objectives. The terrorists wanted Sept. 11 to be a day when innocents died. Instead, it was a day when heroes were born. The terrorists wanted Sept. 11 to be a day when hatred reigned. Instead, it was a day when we witnessed love beyond measure."

The secretary said the terrorists' goal was to instill hate, fear and self-doubt in America. Instead, the fruits of Sept. 11 were charity and courage, patience and perseverance.

Myers thanked the "hard-hat patriots" of the Pentagon's Project Phoenix work force.

"You've restored this great building ahead of schedule, with muscle, determination, marble, cement and Indiana limestone," he said. "You did more than repair our windows and walls; you repaired our souls. In the process, you turned this building into another symbol, one of American resilience."

Myers said the road ahead would be hard, but the price is worth it.

"Today you and I enjoy our beloved freedoms because of the sacrifices made by many before us from our nation, from our friends and allies around the world," he said. "Now, it's our turn to bear the burden for our children, for our grandchildren, for our fallen comrades, for America, for the world."

Greatest tasks face U.S. military, Bush says

By Jim Garamone

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — President Bush said that "the greatest tasks and the greatest dangers will fall to the armed forces of the United States" as the country continues its war on the terrorists who struck America last Sept. 11.

Bush, speaking Sept. 11 at the Pentagon observance of the one-year anniversary of the attacks, said the nation mourns all those who died in New York, Pennsylvania and Virginia.

"The murder of innocents cannot be explained, only endured," he said. "And though they died in tragedy, they did not die in vain."

He said the terrorists attacked the Pentagon because it is a symbol of America's might and resolve.

"The terrorists chose this target hoping to demoralize this country," he said. "They failed. Within minutes brave men and women were rescuing their comrades. Within hours, in this building, the planning began for a military response. Within weeks, commands went forth from this place that would clear terrorist camps and caves and liberate a nation. And within one year, this great building has been made whole once again."

The president said the war on terrorism is being waged on many fronts. U.S. and coalition partners have captured more than 2,400 terrorists, frozen more than \$100 million in funds and continue work to expose terrorist cells and foil future attacks. He said a larger number of ter-

rorists have been killed in combat. He said the attacks began the first battle of the 21st century.

"The enemy who struck us is determined and resourceful," he said. "They will not be stopped by a sense of decency or a hint of conscience, but they will be stopped."

Bush said the U.S. fights for freedom and liberty. America also fights for the security of allies and for peace in the world.

"We fight for the dignity of life against the fanatics who feel no shame in murder," he said. He thanked coalition allies helping in the battle against terror.

"(The terrorists) are opposed by freedom-loving people of many lands," he said.

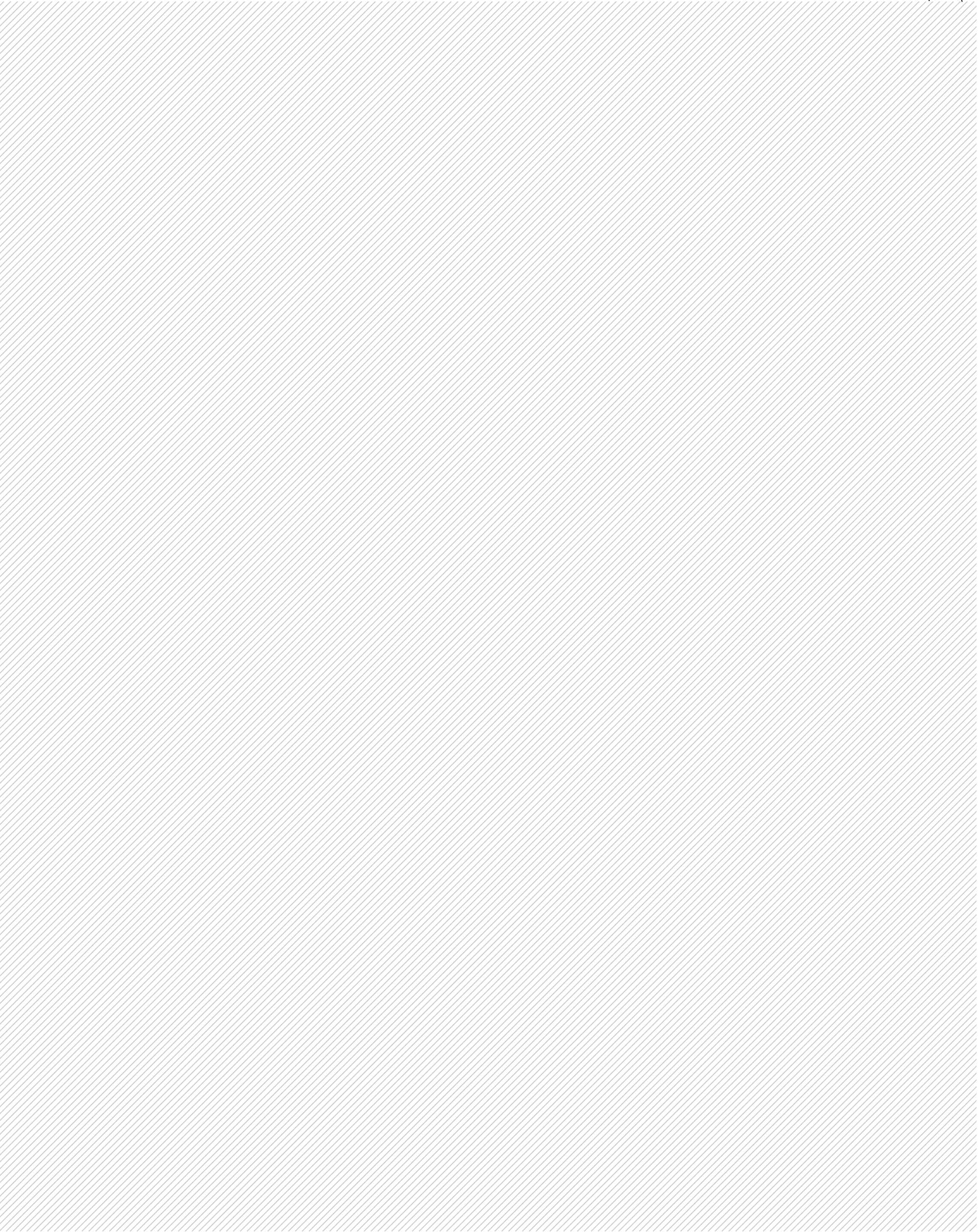
"They are opposed by our allies who have fought bravely by our side. And as long as terrorists and dictators plot against our lives and our liberty, they will be opposed by the United States Army, Navy, Coast Guard, Air Force and Marines."

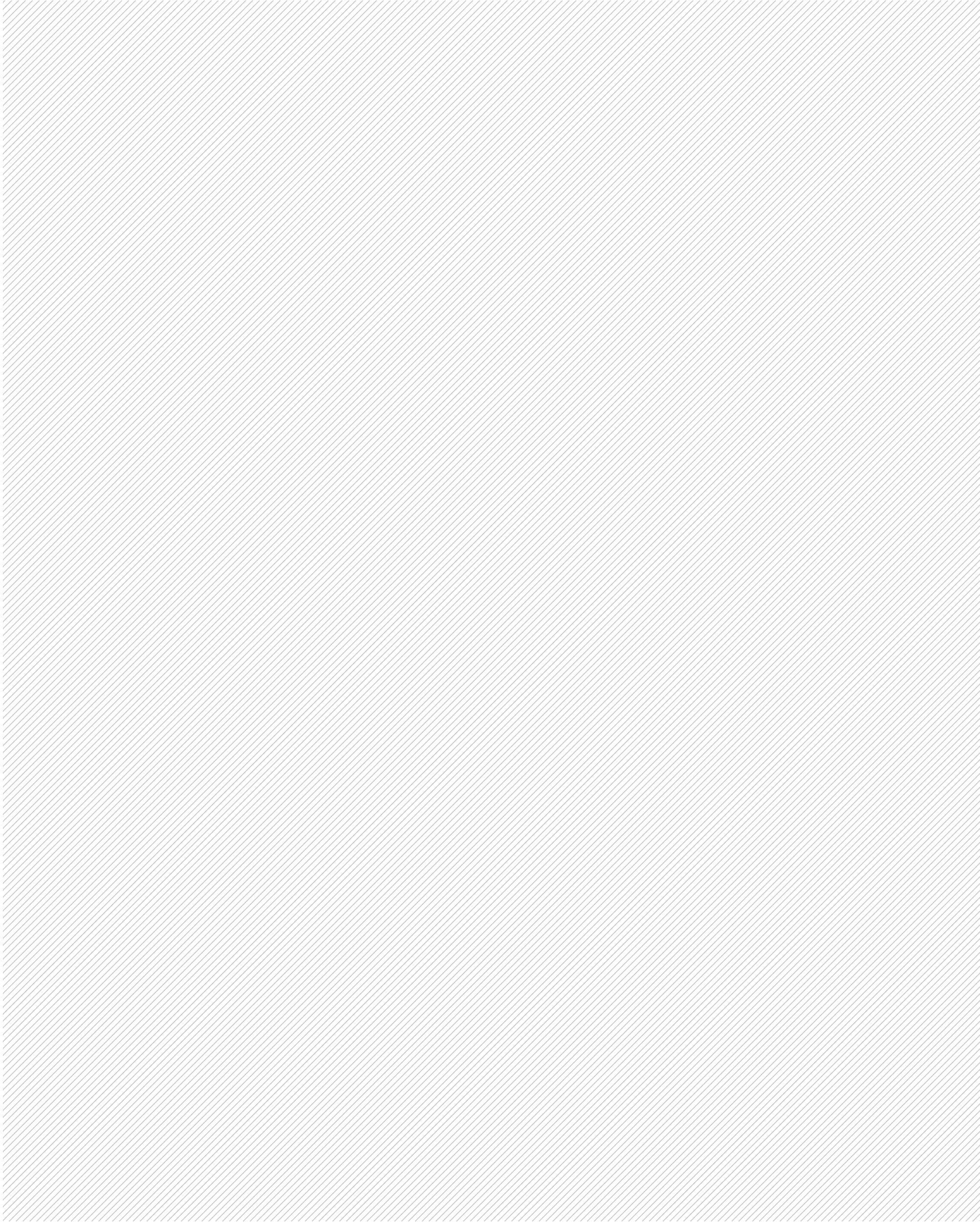
Bush said the U.S. military brings "hope and justice and promise of a better day" wherever it goes. He told members of the armed force that they are "worthy of the traditions you represent, the uniform you wear, the ideals you serve. America is counting on you and our confidence is well-placed."

Bush left the Pentagon for a ceremony in Shanksville, Pa., near where the terrorist-hijacked United Airlines Flight 93 crashed, and afternoon and night observances in New York City.



As the sun rises over Brooks Sept. 11, the Brooks' Honor Guard and members of the Brooks community, including the "Top 3", are paying tribute to the victims of the terrorist attacks one year before.









Sports



Photo by Rudy Purificato

Ronald Hennessey calls the signals as a member of the semi-professional San Antonio Rush football team last season. Hennessey's experience now benefits the 311th Air Base Group's I.C.E. squad in flag football.

Defending flag football champs, AFIERA, not 'favored' contender

By Rudy Purificato
311th Human Systems Wing

The two-time defending Brooks flag football champion was scheduled to play its first regular season intramural game this week against a team it considers 'head and shoulders' above the rest of the field.

While the outcome of this contest was unknown by press time, the Air Force Institute for Environment, Safety and Occupational Health Risk Analysis knows their performance against the 311th Air Base Group's I.C.E. squad may very well spell the beginning of the end for them this season.

"They are heads above everyone else. They've got speed, experience and Hennessey," said veteran player-coach Aaron Sinclair, who knows that reality usually overrides optimism.

The league's leading contender, whose I.C.E. acronym stands for Intensity, Concentration and Execution, features a veteran squad.

The team's most devastating offensive weapon is the phenomenally talented Ronald Hennessey at quarterback-receiver.

This 311th Security Forces Squadron patrolman just completed his rookie year as starting quarterback for the San Antonio Rush, a United Professional Football League semi-professional team. Hennessey's shotgun arm, speed and gridiron savvy helped earn him the Rush's Most Valuable Player honors.

"He (Hennessey) makes all the difference," says Sinclair, referring to how such a superior player has changed the balance of power in a league that, historically, AFIERA dominates.

"The key to stopping a quarterback that fast is to cut his angles down. We can't let him get to the outside," Sinclair said. AFIERA's wily coach hopes to use a "triple containment" strategy to try to slow this future college-bound quarterback down.

AFIERA will need all of its weapons to contend against I.C.E., a team that also features Terry Rivers, considered the fastest human on base. During Squadron Challenge two years ago, Rivers won the 100-yard dash in 9.7 seconds.

"He is the epitome of a sprint runner. He has the attributes (talent) to get to the Olympic Games," said teammate Reggie Frazier, a veteran linebacker. Another I.C.E. impact player is newcomer Joseph Brown, a free safety.

AFIERA will attempt to counter I.C.E.'s offensive arsenal with the core of returning veterans from its 1999 and 2000 championship squads. They include versatile star Rob Taylor, center Jim Thompson, rusher John Alls and halfback David Villarreal, whose two touchdowns during the base championship game in October 2000 helped AFIERA defeat JAYAPK 24-12.

"We're in the pack this year too. We are not favored contenders," admits Sinclair.

Scouting reports have validated Sinclair's pre-season concerns.

"Most everybody in the league has speed. The 68th (Information Operations Squadron) is a good team whose players have a lot of athleticism," he said.

Even AFIERA's archrival, the 311th Human Systems Program Office, will be a challenge despite that squad's loss of its star, Va'shon Moore, who has PCS'd.

"We're going to look at everybody at

“ They (311th Air Base Group's I.C.E. squad) are heads above everyone else. They've got speed, experience and Hennessey. He makes all the difference. ”

Aaron Sinclair

AFIERA veteran player-coach

all positions," says Sinclair about new players that he hopes will help his team. AFIERA's newcomers include Mike Weems, Robert Spicer and "Bad, Bad" Leroy Brown. Sinclair also hopes to persuade 6'6," 280-pound 'Big' John Schlegel, an AFIERA hoop star, to make his presence felt on the gridiron.

Nevertheless, Sinclair remains philosophical about the impending end of AFIERA's flag football dynasty.

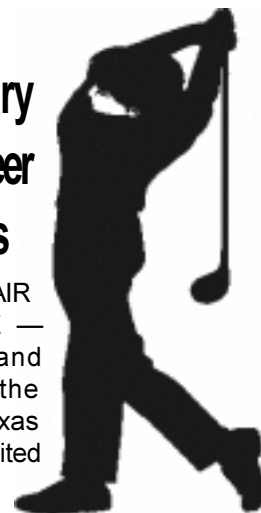
"We'll be tested under the real fire of games," he said, referring to his team's lack of pre-season playing time. Besides not playing in the pre-season, AFIERA had its first regular season game against nemesis YA cancelled because the officials were unable to participate.

Whatever happens to them this week, however, is just the beginning of what could become for AFIERA their version of TV's "Survivor."

Rudolph.Purificato@brooks.af.mil

SPORTS SHORTS

Texas Open offers military tickets, volunteer opportunities



RANDOLPHAIR FORCE BASE — Sponsors and organizers of the 2002 Valero Texas Open have a limited number of free tickets for military members to attend the golf tournament in San Antonio.

The annual Professional Golf Association tour event takes place Sept. 23-29 at the La Cantera Golf Club. Golfers compete for a \$3 million dollar purse. The winner receives \$540,000.

Brooks members can get their free tickets at the Brooks Golf Course, or at Outdoor Recreation or the Marketing Office, both located in Bldg. 1154. Contact Vida Marsh at 536-8057 for more information.

All military invited to West Point vs. University of Houston game

The U.S. Military Academy plays the University of Houston Oct. 19 in Houston.

The West Point superintendent has invited all military services to attend as a show of military spirit and unity. Game time is 7 p.m. at John O'Quinn Field in Houston.

Personnel interested in attending should contact Marketing at 536-8057 for information about the availability of discounted group tickets and travel services including airfare, rental car and hotel reservations. More information is also available on the website at: cougartickets.uh.edu.



Alamo Federal Executive Board presents Federal Employee Night

The Alamo Federal Executive Board presents the Bobble Head series and federal employee night Oct. 19 at 7:30 p.m. at the new SBC Center downtown.

Federal employees are invited to watch the San Antonio Spurs take on the Miami Heat.

For \$48 federal employees receive two \$25.50 tickets (sections 203-213) and a David Robinson bobble head.

Seats are assigned on a best available basis. There are no refunds or exchanges.

Deadline to order is Sept. 20. Tickets will be mailed the week of Sept. 23.

For more information call 554-7832. Invite all your coworkers, friends and families to join you.



Squadron Challenge ‘sequel’ features changes, surprises

By Rudy Purificato
311th Human Systems Wing

The inaugural softball game between the chiefs and eagles will be part of a revamped format for the upcoming Squadron Challenge sequel scheduled for Oct. 25.

For the first time in several years, base athletes will compete in a second Squadron Challenge during the same year. Brig. Gen. Lloyd Dodd, 311th Human Systems Wing commander, made the decision to stage a bi-annual competition to give base personnel more opportunities to have some fun while engaging them in challenging athletic activities.

One of the changes to the Squadron Challenge format that was recently announced at a base Sports Advisory Council meeting is showcasing what will become an annual softball game between the Chiefs Group and colonels. The game, not initially part of Squadron Challenge plans, was originally scheduled to be played on Oct. 18.

“The chiefs-eagles game will be the next-to-the-last event, just before the tug-of-war competition,” said fitness center director Roy

Conatzer. He said the game does not replace Squadron Challenge’s softball competition. “We will use two softball fields, one for the chiefs-eagles game, the other for the softball event,” Conatzer said.

Tentative plans are also being discussed to move the tug-of-war event from the volleyball pit, located near the base swimming pool, to the softball field area. “We plan to dig a pit and fill it with water. We’ve done that before,” explains Conatzer about replacing the traditional sandpit to make it a little more interesting for tug-of-war participants.

Co-locating tug-of-war near the softball field where the chief-eagles game will be staged capitalizes on fan and participant interest. Historically, the tug-of-war event attracts a lot of people cheering on their teams. The chiefs-eagles ‘duel on the diamond’ is expected to attract quite a bit of local interest. Squadron Challenge planners hope the co-located events will produce the gala-type atmosphere of Olympic Games-like closing ceremonies.

Another change involves event scoring. “No extra points will be awarded to teams based on their commander’s participation,” said Conatzer. This extra point rule was inaugurated at the Squadron Challenge in May. Planners believe the idea was a bad one and unfair to military athletes for whom this competition is primarily staged.

HAWC notes 536-4292

Fitness Assessment Monitor training

Training is scheduled for Sept. 25 at the Health and Wellness Center. All Fitness Assessment Monitor trainees are required to sign out and complete the computer-based training slides before attending the course. This is the only way to register for the course. Hands-on training is scheduled from 1-2:30 p.m and 2-3:30 p.m. Sept. 25. Each

class accomodates six people. A guest instructor is hosting the classes so it is very important that everyone be trained that day. Lackland will not offer training any-time soon.

Contact Airman First Class Monica Evans at 536-4292 to sign up, obtain the slides or for more information.

September is national five-a-day month

When your mother told you to eat your fruits and vegetables, she knew what she was talking about. Not only do these foods taste good, but they have vitamins, minerals, fiber, and antioxidants that can help maintain a healthy body. Experts recommend eating between five and nine servings of fruits and vegetables daily. Below are a few tips to meet this goal.

Include a glass of 100 percent juice as part of your breakfast, take a box of raisins or an apple for an afternoon snack, add vegetables like lettuce and tomato to sandwiches, slice a banana in cereal or mix it in low-fat yogurt and drink tomato or vegetable juice for veggies in a glass.

Call the Health and Wellness Center for more on proper nutrition.